

X-MEN GOLD



011

GUGGENHEIM
MEDINA
YEUNG
MARTIN

X-MEN

GOLD

GENETICALLY GIFTED WITH UNCANNY ABILITIES, MUTANTS ARE BELIEVED TO BE THE NEXT STAGE OF HUMAN EVOLUTION. WHILE THE WORLD HATES AND FEARS THEM, KITTY PRYDE HAS REFORMED THE TEAM OF MUTANT HEROES KNOWN AS THE X-MEN TO USE THEIR POWERS FOR GOOD AND SPREAD A POSITIVE IMAGE OF MUTANTKIND.

PREVIOUSLY IN *X-MEN GOLD*...

WHEN COLOSSUS AND MAGIK RECEIVED A CALL FROM THEIR LONG-ESTRANGED UNCLE ABOUT SOME TROUBLE WITH THE RUSSIA MAFIA, THE X-MEN HEADED TO RUSSIA TO INVESTIGATE. A CRIME BOSS NAMED KOMOLOV HAD RESURRECTED OMEGA RED AND NEEDED MAGIK'S ABILITIES TO COMPLETELY RESTORE HIM TO FULL STRENGTH...

EN'KANE

PART 2

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KITTY PRYDE



STORM
ORORO MUNROE



NIGHTCRAWLER
KURT WAGNER



COLOSSUS
PIOTR RASPUTIN



PRESTIGE
RACHEL GREY

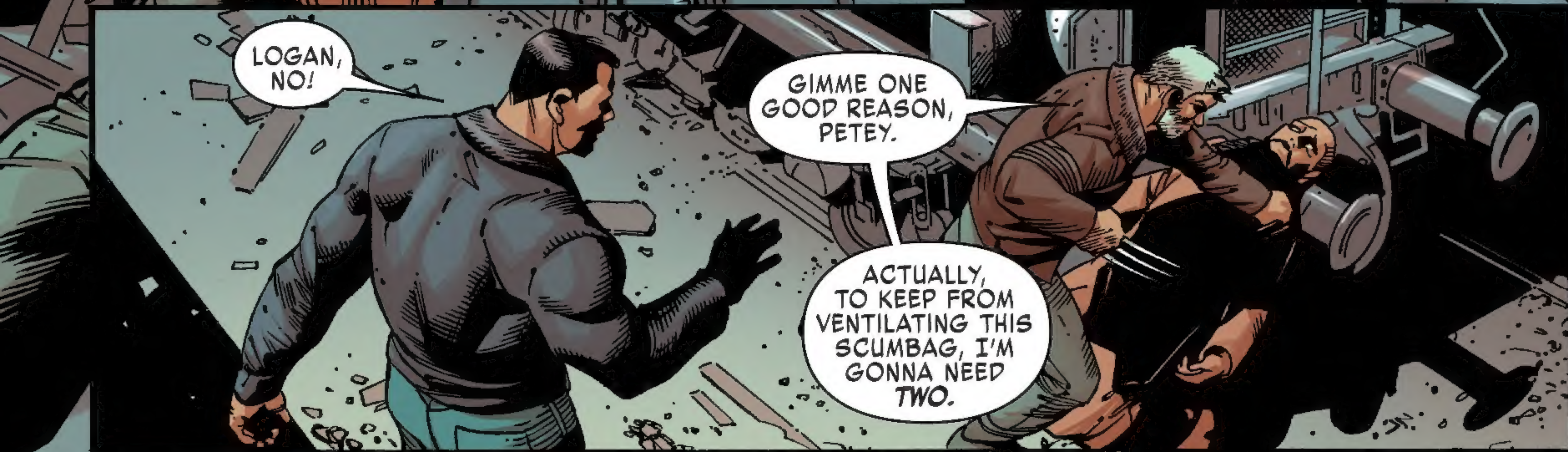


OLD MAN LOGAN

**ABANDONED SOVIET RAILYARD.
RUSSIA.**



LAST CHANCE,
BUB. TELL ME WHERE
ILLYANA IS OR YOU
GET THREE EXTRA
NOSTRILS.



LOGAN,
NO!

GIMME ONE
GOOD REASON,
PETEY.

ACTUALLY,
TO KEEP FROM
VENTILATING THIS
SCUMBAG, I'M
GONNA NEED
TWO.

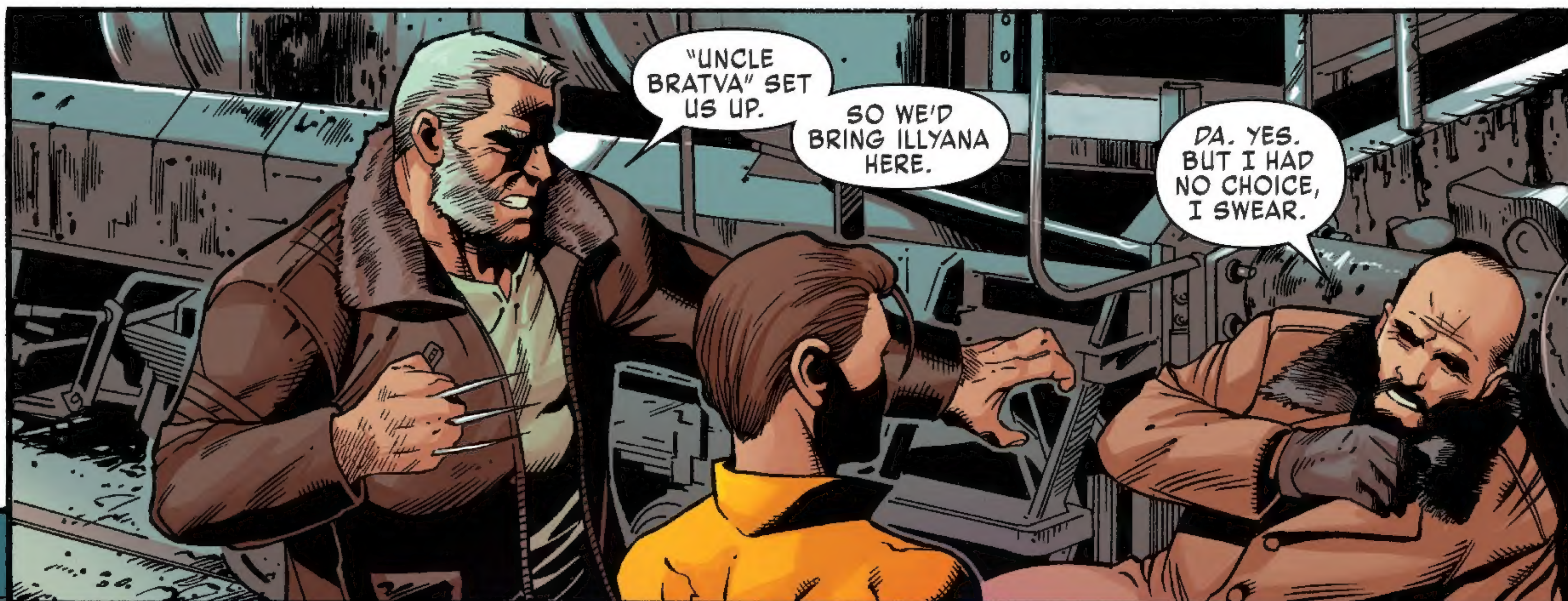


HE'S MY
UNCLE--

FINE.
WHAT'S
NUMBER
TWO?



'CAUSE
I SAID
SO.



"UNCLE
BRATVA" SET
US UP.

SO WE'D
BRING ILLYANA
HERE.

DA. YES.
BUT I HAD
NO CHOICE,
I SWEAR.



KOMOLOV--
MY PAKHAN--HE
WAS ABLE TO RAISE
ROSSOVICH--OMEGA
RED--BUT ONLY
FOR SHORT
WHILE.

HE NEEDS
ILLYANA'S POWER
TO MAKE THE
RESURRECTION
PERMANENT.

DA.

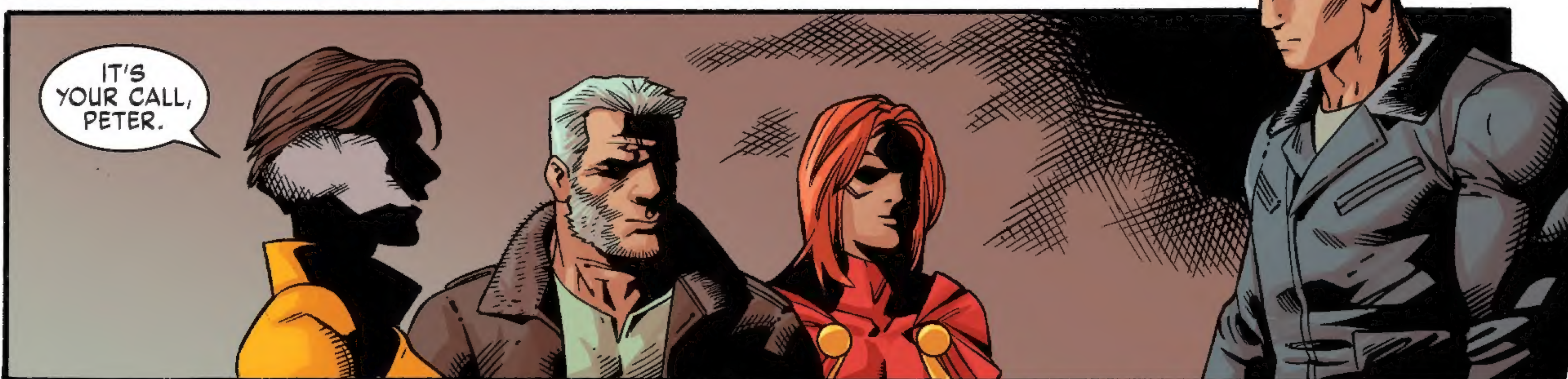


KOMOLOV
BELIEVES ROSSOVICH
WILL BE BEHOLDEN TO HIM,
THAT WITH OMEGA RED'S
STRENGTH, HE CAN SEIZE
CONTROL OVER ALL
OF RUSSIA.

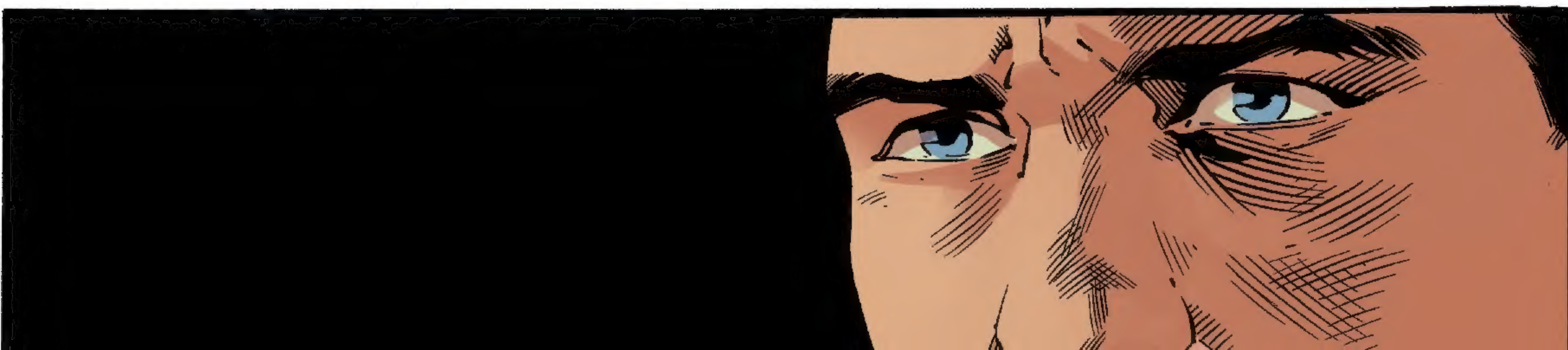


I KNOW
WHERE KOMOLOV
AND ROSSOVICH
ARE. THAT'S WHERE
ILLYANA WILL
BE.

I CAN TAKE
YOU TO THEM.
YOU JUST HAVE
TO TRUST
ME...



IT'S
YOUR CALL,
PETER.





ONE HOUR LATER.
CHURCH OF ST. MITROPHAN.

ANATOLY?
CHTO ETO?

MY
NEPHEW.



DON'T WORRY.
HE NO LONGER
HAS HIS MUTIE
ABILITIES.

WHAT
ABOUT THE
OTHERS?

WE LEFT
YOU WITH
THEM AT THE
TRAINYARD...



YOU HAVE
SOMETHING
TO SAY TO ME,
SERGEI?

AN
ACCUSATION,
PERHAPS?



...
NO,
ANATOLY.



GOOD.

NOW...

"...I WANT TO
SEE VIKTOR."

"THEY WENT
FOR IT..."

...PETER'S IN
POSITION.

"IT'S JUST A
BUNCH'A RUSSIAN
MOBSTERS..."

...WHY
AREN'T WE
GOIN' IN
THERE GUNS
BLAZIN'?

WE
DON'T HAVE
GUNS.

YOU
KNOW WHAT
I MEAN.

THESE
AREN'T YOUR
TYPICAL "RUSSIAN
MOBSTERS."
THEY'VE GOT
MAGIC.

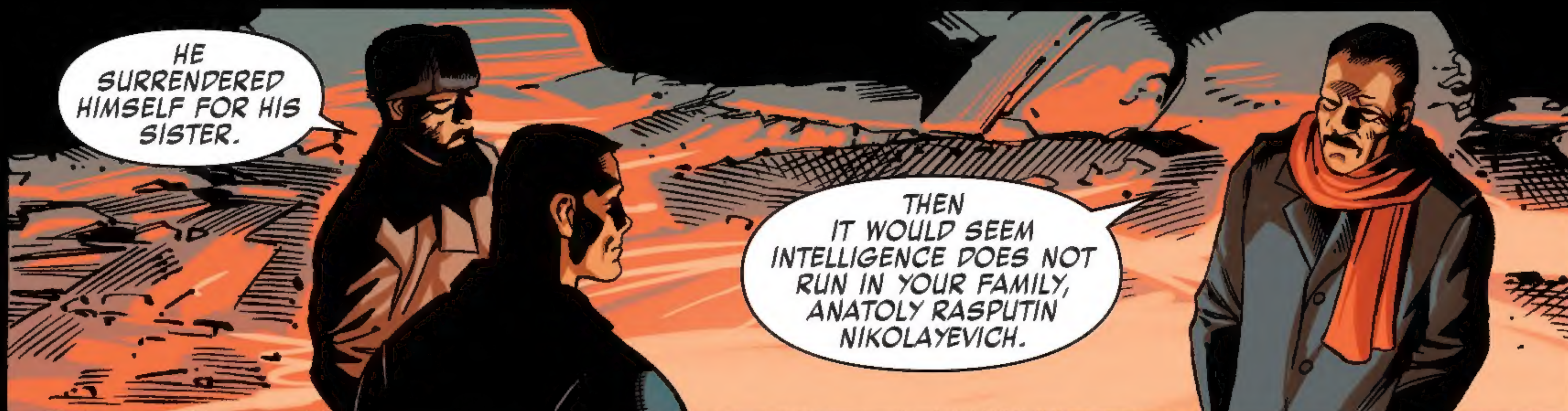
AND WE
DON'T KNOW WHERE
EXACTLY THEY'RE HOLDING
ILLYANA OR THE THREAT
LEVEL OF OMEGA
RED.

ACTUALLY...



...I
KINDA
THINK WE
DO.

SNIKT



HE
SURRENDERED
HIMSELF FOR HIS
SISTER.

THEN
IT WOULD SEEM
INTELLIGENCE DOES NOT
RUN IN YOUR FAMILY,
ANATOLY RASPUTIN
NIKOLAYEVICH.



I DO NOT
HAGGLE LIKE
SOME STREET
MERCHANT.

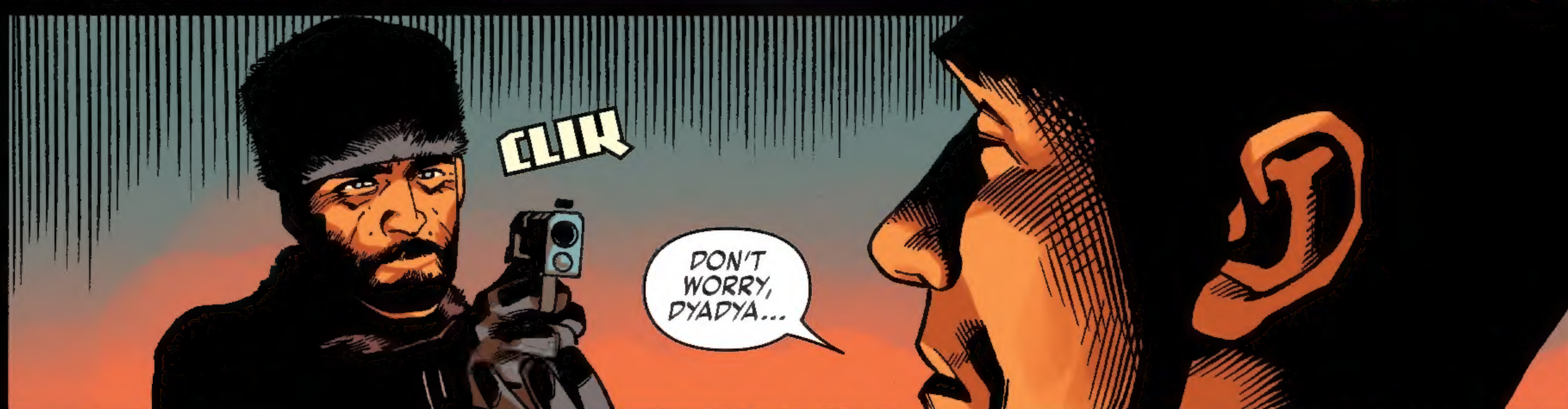
AS
FOR YOUR
SISTER...



...OMEGA
RED WEAKENED
HER. I WAS ABLE
TO FORCER HER TO
DO MY BIDDING.



"AND NOW OMEGA RED IS
NOT ONLY ALIVE, BUT MORE
POWERFUL THAN EVER."





IT'S
YOUR CALL,
PETER.

HE'S
LYING,
PETER.

RED'S RIGHT.
I COULD SMELL THE
STINK COMIN' OFF
YOUR UNCLE THE
SECOND YOU TWO
SHOOK HANDS.



I'M SORRY,
PETER. I KNOW
YOU WANTED TO
BELIEVE YOU
COULD TRUST
HIM.



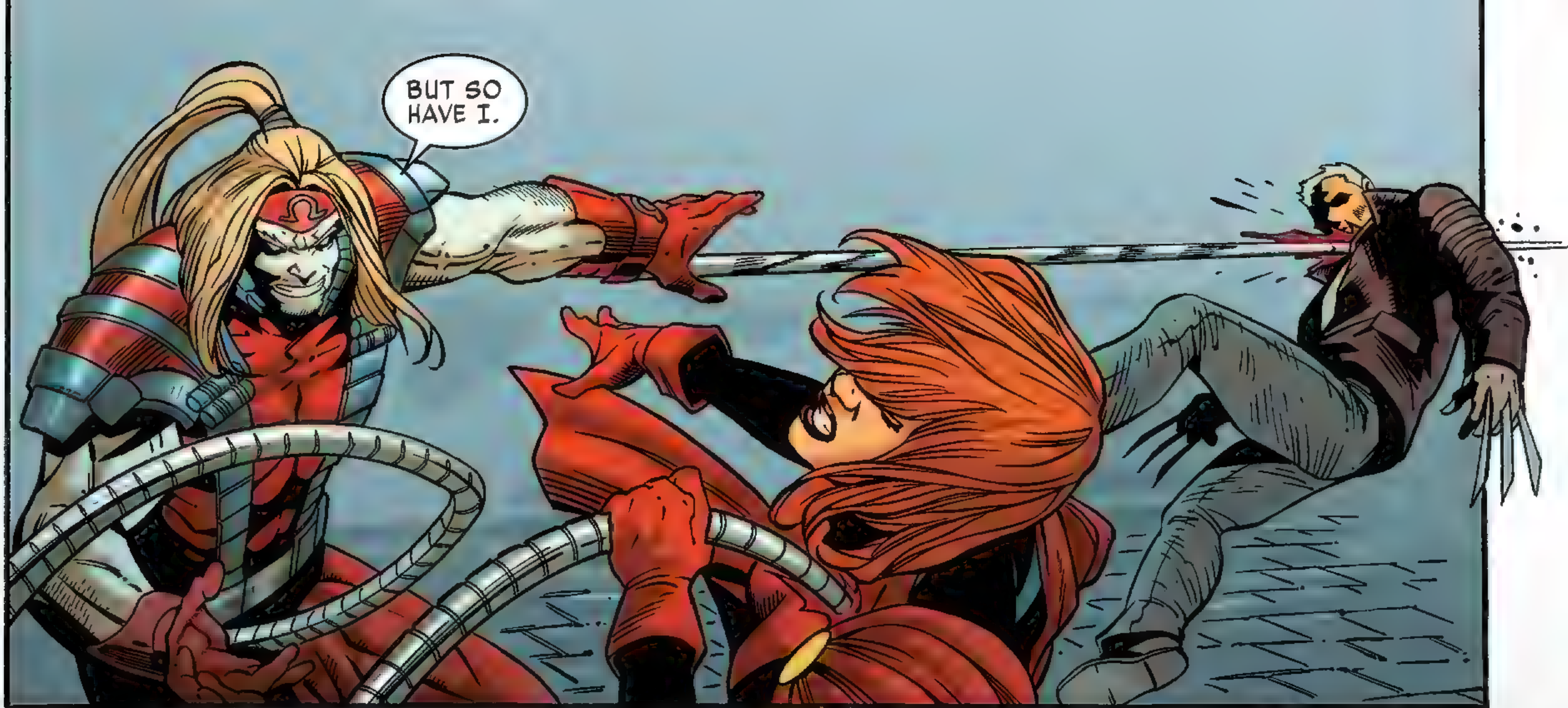
"BUT WE CAN
USE THIS. GAIN
A TACTICAL
ADVANTAGE."

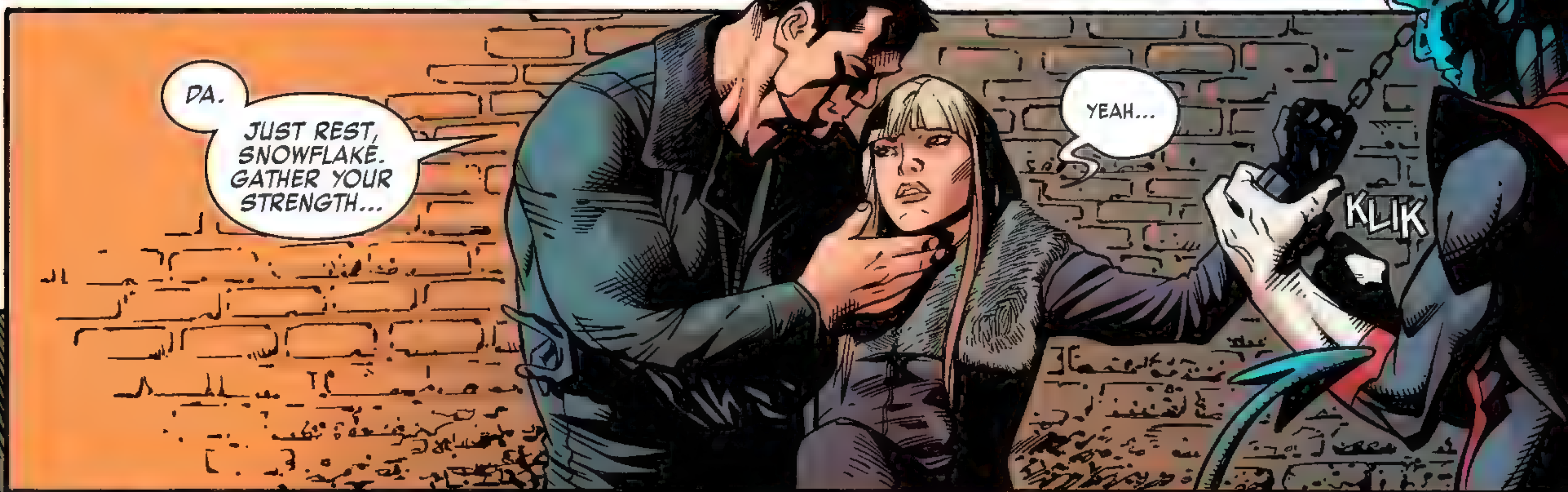
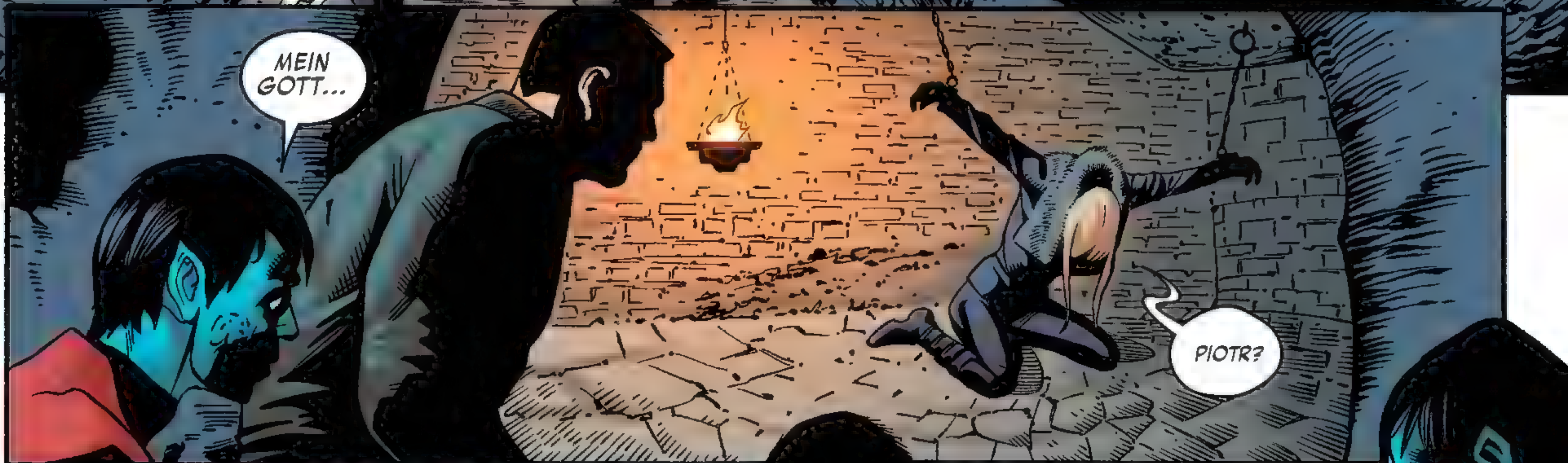


"FIND OUT
ILLYANA'S
POSITION."











WE
NEED TO
TALK.

KOMOLOV...

SHIKER

ASH

NOW...



"...WHERE
CAN I FIND
OMEGA RED?"

I SAVED
YOU FOR LAST,
WOLVERINE...



YOU
KILLED
ME.

A PROPER
RUSSIAN WOULD
RETURN THE
FAVOR.



YOU AIN'T
A PROPER
RUSSIAN,
ROSSOVICH.

AND I AIN'T
"WOLVERINE"
NO MORE.



SNIKT

SNIKT

BUT THAT
DON'T MEAN I
CAN'T STILL KICK
YOUR ASS.



HARDLY.



YOU'RE OLD.



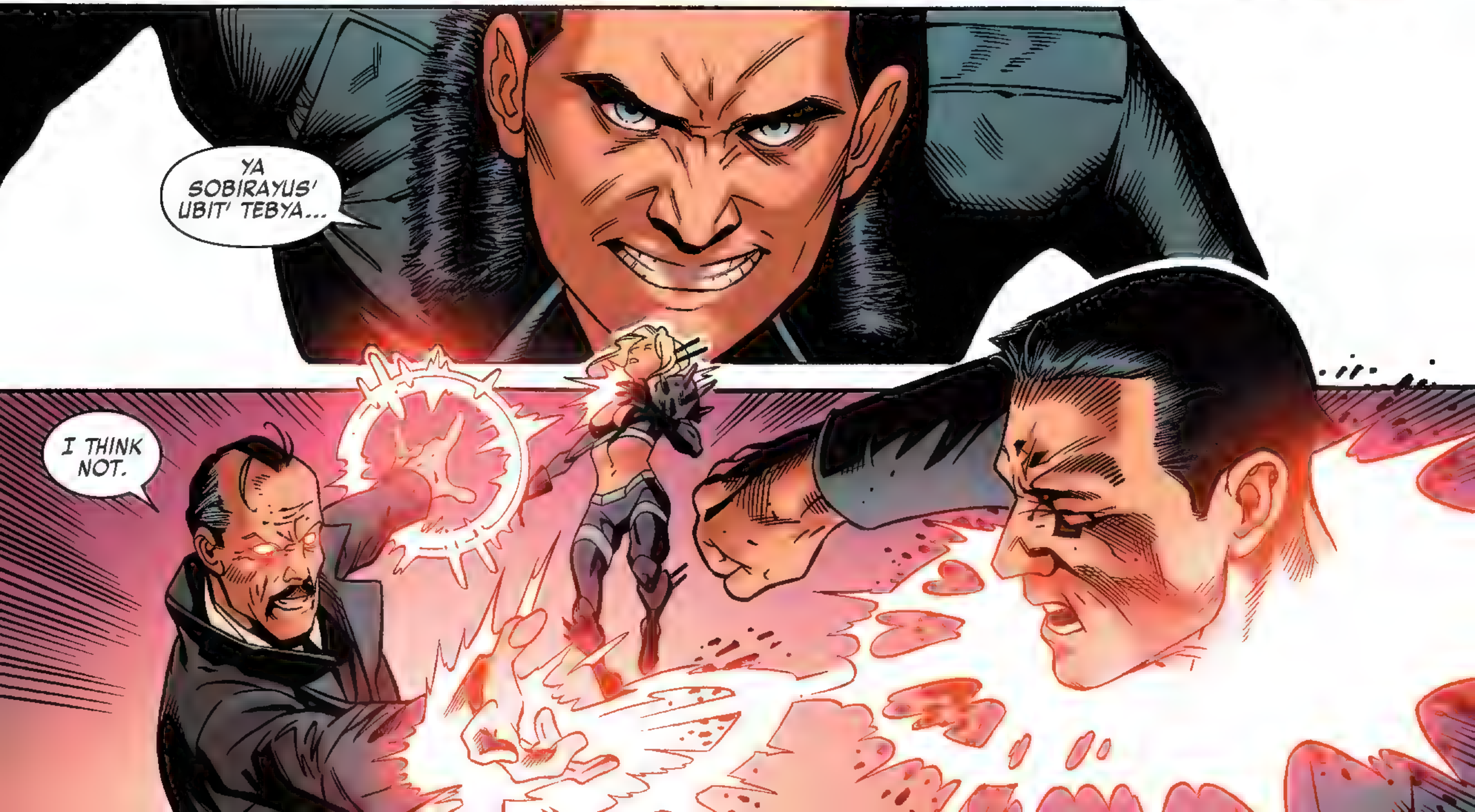
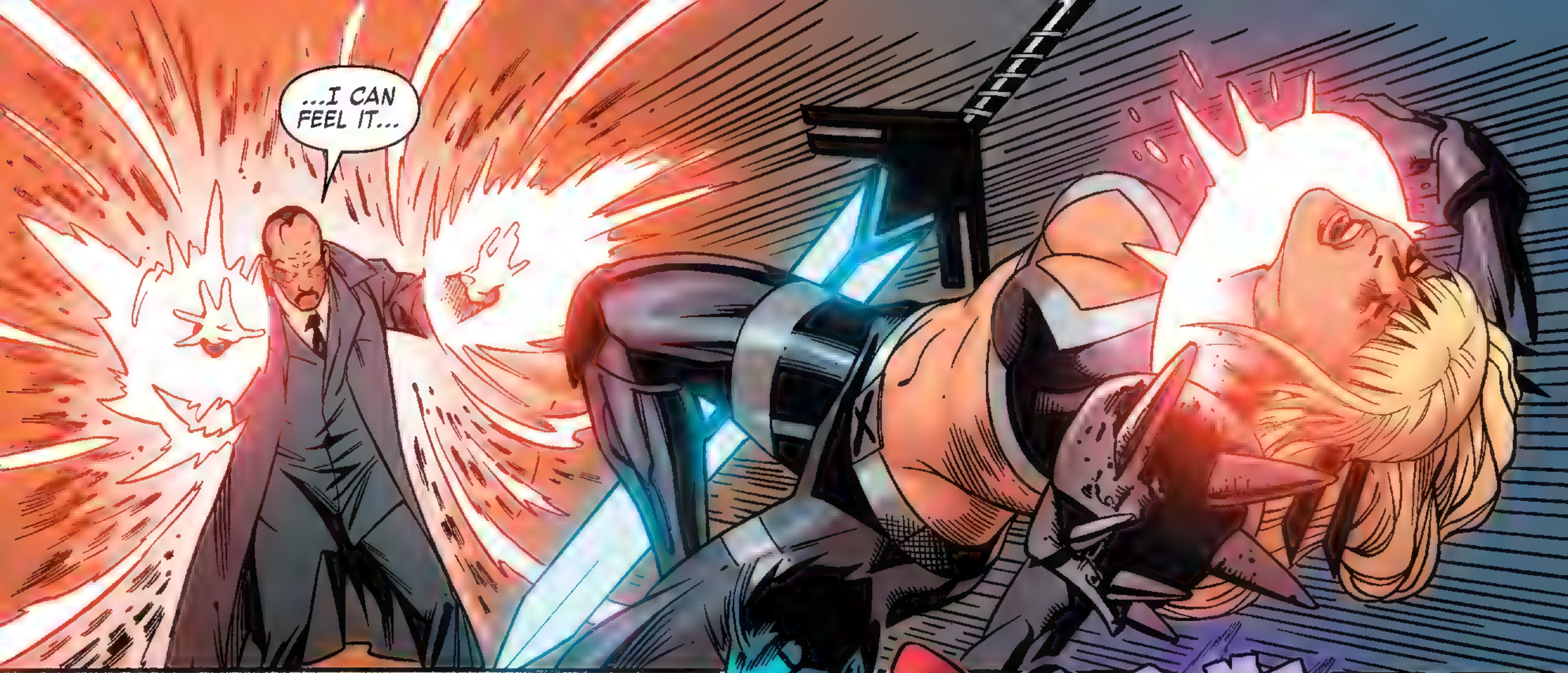
WEAK.
BREATHING
HEAVY.

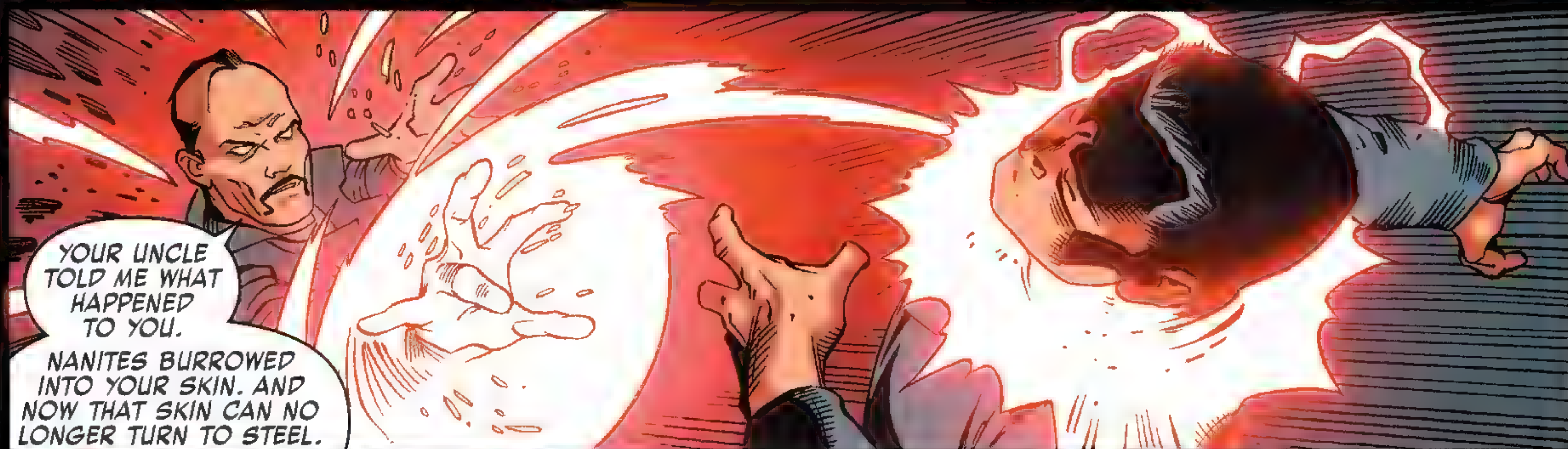


NOT EVEN
HALF THE MAN
WHO ONCE
KILLED ME.

HKK--

"OMEGA RED HAS
WEAKENED YOU..."

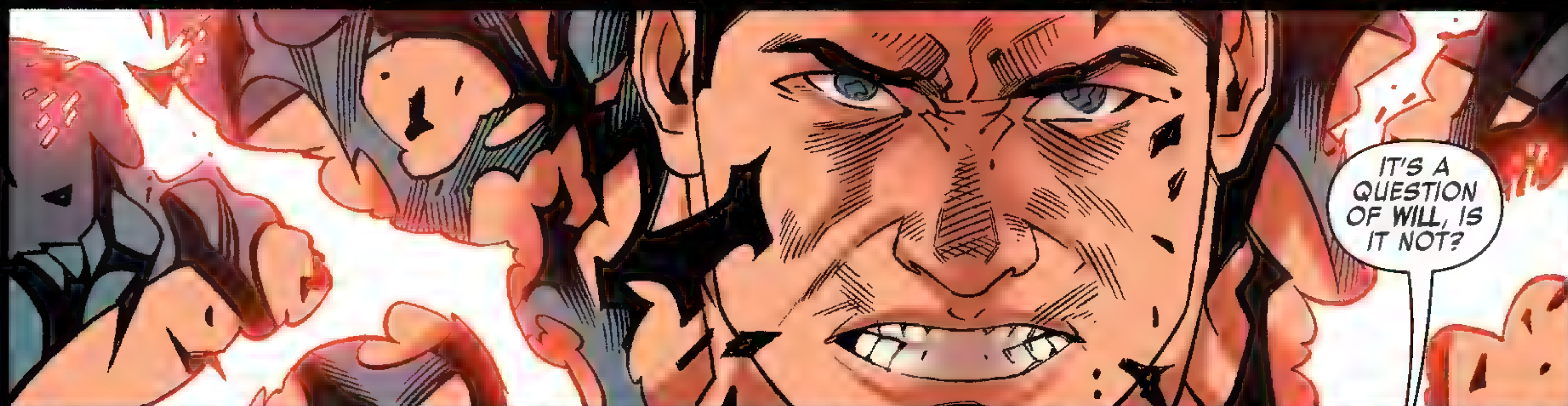




YOUR UNCLE
TOLD ME WHAT
HAPPENED
TO YOU.
NANITES BURROWED
INTO YOUR SKIN. AND
NOW THAT SKIN CAN NO
LONGER TURN TO STEEL.



PITY.
I'D HAVE
BEEN CURIOUS
TO SEE IF YOUR
STEEL WAS
STRONGER THAN
MY MAGIKS.



IT'S A
QUESTION
OF WILL, IS
IT NOT?



DA.
IT IS.

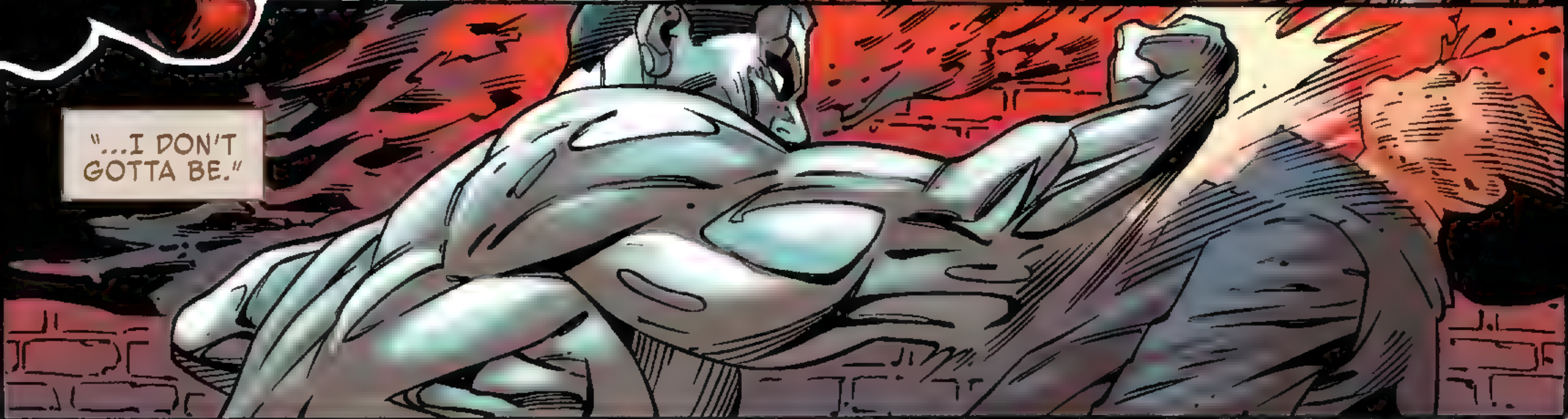
NOW I AM
GOING TO TRY
VERY HARD NOT
TO KILL YOU...

"YOU'RE
RIGHT,
BUB..."

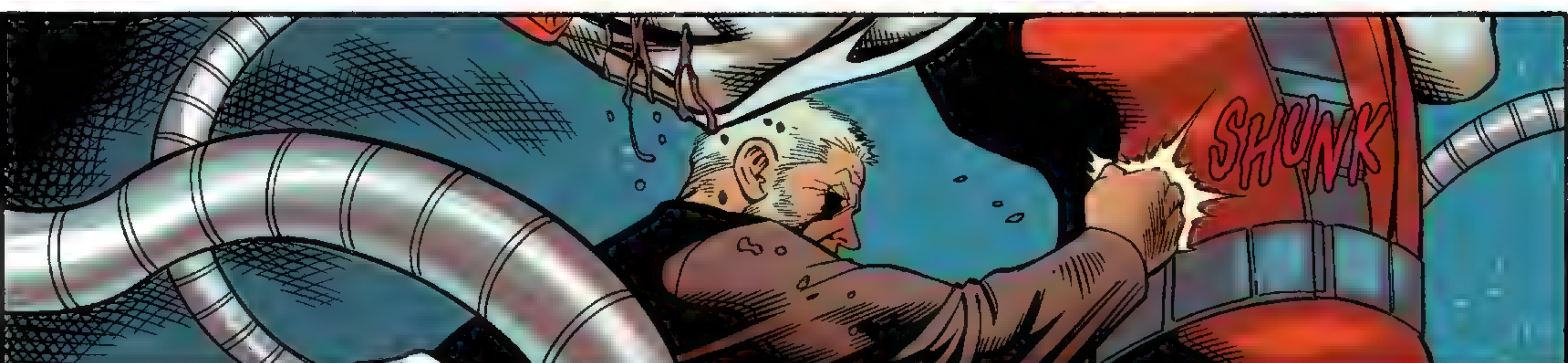


...I'M NOT
HALF THE MAN
I WAS.

BUT
TO BEAT
YOU...



"...I DON'T
GOTTA BE."



SHUNK



CHOK



"IT'S OVER."

**LEFORTOVO
PRISON.
MOSCOW.**

S.I.C.K.L.E.--
YOUR VERSION OF
OUR S.H.I.E.L.D.--HAS
TAKEN OMEGA RED AND
YOUR PAKHAN INTO
CUSTODY.

"YOUR
VERSION."

"OUR
S.H.I.E.L.D."

DO
YOU EVEN
REMEMBER
BEING
RUSSIAN?

DO NOT
TRY TO TURN
THIS AROUND
ON ME.

YOU TRIED
TO DECEIVE ME,
ANATOLY. YOU WOULD
HAVE SHOT YOUR OWN
NEPHEW. AFTER HAVING
BETRAYED YOUR
NIECE.

I CAME
BACK HERE IN
THE HOPE OF
FINDING MY
FAMILY.

NOW I GO
TO MY FATHER'S
GRAVE, TO LAY A
ROSE AND
THANK HIM.

THANK
HIM FOR
WHAT?

FOR
HIDING
YOU FROM
US.

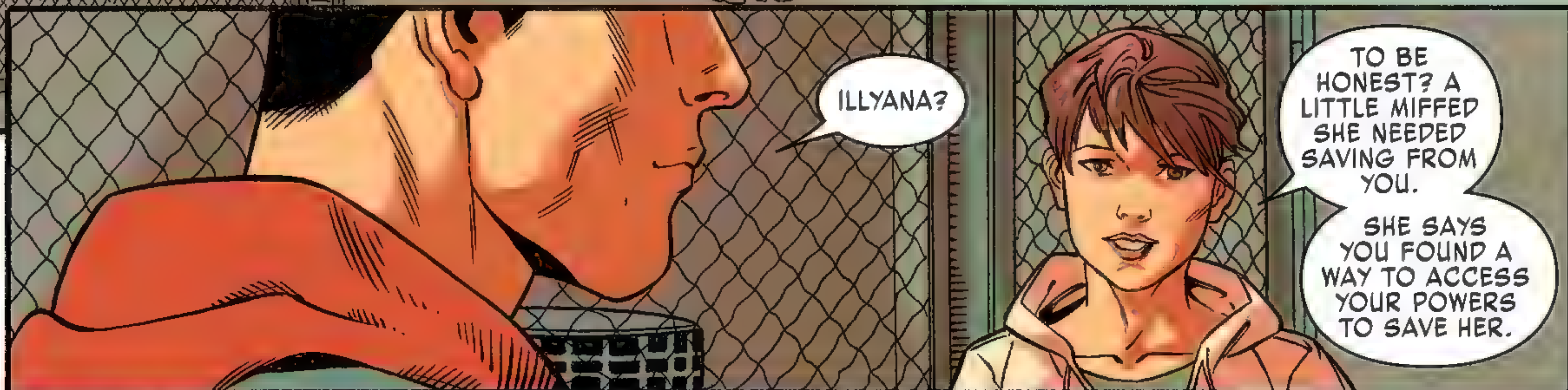


ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

JUST SAD.

HOW IS EVERYONE?

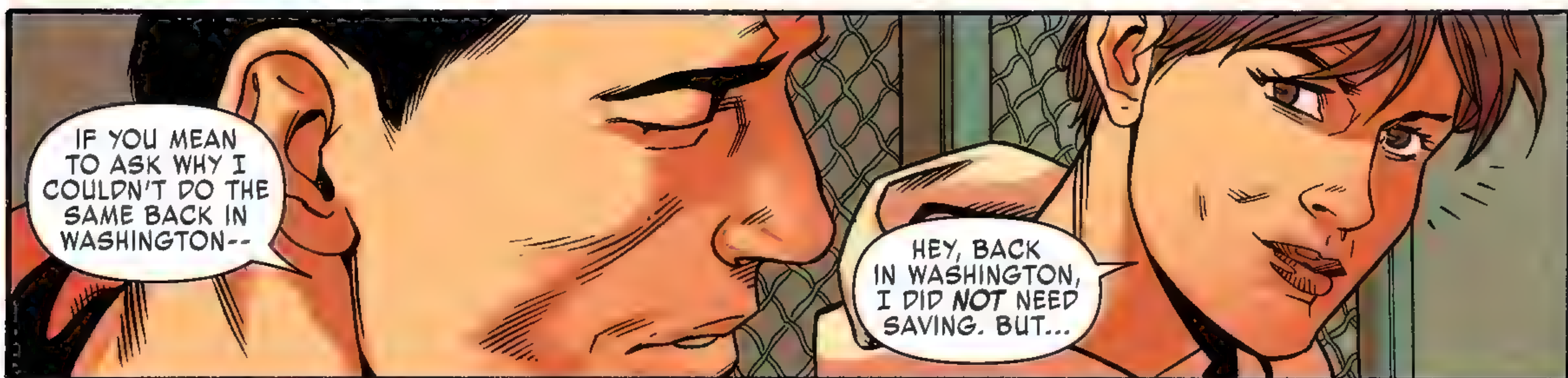
A LOTTA HEADACHES AND BRUISES. WE'VE HAD WORSE.



ILLYANA?

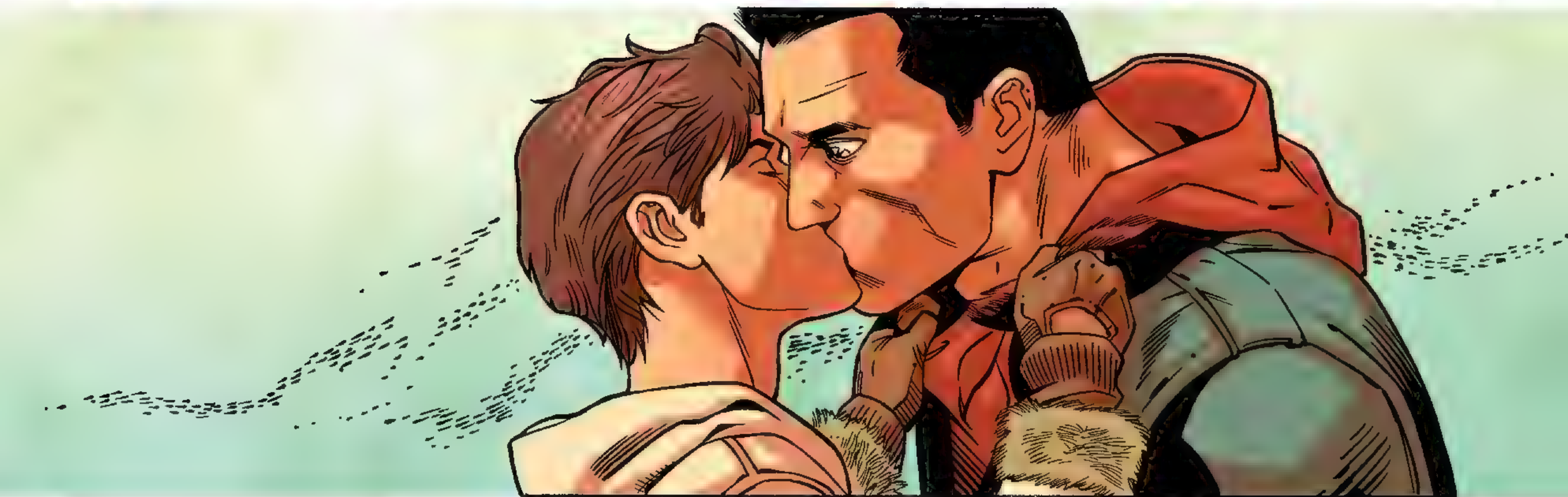
TO BE HONEST? A LITTLE MIFFED SHE NEEDED SAVING FROM YOU.

SHE SAYS YOU FOUND A WAY TO ACCESS YOUR POWERS TO SAVE HER.



IF YOU MEAN TO ASK WHY I COULDN'T DO THE SAME BACK IN WASHINGTON--

HEY, BACK IN WASHINGTON, I DID NOT NEED SAVING. BUT...



WHAT WAS THAT FOR? NOT THAT I'M COMPLAINING.

IN WASHINGTON, I SAID I NEEDED TIME.

I TOOK IT.



I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO GOING HOME NOW.

HOME, KATYA, IS WHEREVER YOU ARE.

THOUGHT YOU ALREADY WERE.

NEXT: KOLOGOTH!

X-MEN

MARC GUGGENHEIM WRITER

CHRIS ROBINSON ASSISTANT EDITOR

MARK PANICCIA X-MEN GROUP EDITOR

THE GOLD STANDARD

Love the new X-MEN GOLD! What a great team lineup! Keep up the good work. I can't wait to see what you have in store. Back to basics!

An X-Men fan of over 20 years,
Bruce S

Thanks, Bruce! We hope you're continuing to enjoy our crazy little book!

Hello,

I hope this email finds you well. I just finished reading X-MEN GOLD #1 and it was an utter delight. I've been a longtime fan of X-MEN all my life and this book feels like a throwback to those simplistic bygone days. I think you all are on the right track and will be a huge success. You all have yourselves a fan here rooting for you and impatiently waiting for the next issue. So get crackin'.

Make mine Marvel,
Ivan Aguilar

Thanks, Ivan! Yes, the book is nostalgic by design and it seems--fortunately--to be a winning formula, judging from the feedback and sales numbers. We strive to make this the premiere X-Men book for X-Men fans by X-Men fans.

Dear X-Crew,

First of all, this year marks a special anniversary for me, as 30 years ago I picked up my first comic. It was UNCANNY X-MEN #216, and I instantly fell in love with the characters. I've followed these characters through many line-up changes, deaths, resurrections, all the different spin-offs and mini-series. When I was younger they gave me a place to turn when I was having a bad day or felt I didn't fit in, and as an adult they still continue to brighten my week. So for that I would like to send a huge thank you to anyone who has ever been involved in the stories of these characters. They do mean more to people than you could imagine.

I couldn't agree with you more. X-Men has continued to serve a similar role for me in my life. I give the lion's share of the credit to Chris Claremont, who wrote the X-Men for decades and had a hand in creating many--if not all--of the characters we so love.

GOLD #1 was a thoroughly enjoyable beginning to the series. I'll have to see more, obviously, to really feel what direction we're heading, but I like it so far. You could not have picked a better cast (although it doesn't quite feel complete without Rogue.)

Damn that Rogue and her Uncanny Avengering! Seriously though, Rogue was the only character I wanted in the book, but couldn't get because she was already on another team. But I'm sneaky and will get her in these pages eventually, I swear!

KITTY -- I cannot say enough great things about having her in the lead. It's about time. Kitty has always been the heart and soul of the X-Men. She's never been afraid to do the right thing even if everyone else disagrees with her. Seeing her take charge is beautiful. And let's not forget how brilliant she is.

I promise not to forget!

STORM -- I'm glad she decided to stay. She's one of the few characters whose absence is noticed. I hope she doesn't stay in this funk over the Inhuman/X-Men War (Great story, by the way) for too long. She did what she had to do, and let's face it, it's not the worst thing any of them have done.

Very true. And, in keeping with this series' hopeful tone, you'll see that I haven't had her dwell on the past.

NIGHTCRAWLER -- He's been a downer lately, but I love the fuzzy elf. Maybe going back to the basics we can see that old carefree spirit return.

How are we doing?

COLOSSUS -- Never been one of my favorites, but you can't help but like the big lug. Let's find him someone else to pine over though. The Kitty thing is getting old. She's moved on, Petey. Let it go.

Uh-oh. Don't read Issue #9, okay?

PRESTIGE -- Love the name change. She's more than just the daughter of an alternate Scott and Jean. She's her own woman and I hope against hope against hope that she sticks around long enough to show how amazing she is. She tends to disappear into comics limbo quite regularly.

I couldn't agree more. Fortunately, we've got some big things planned for our Rachel.

OLD MAN LOGAN -- Logan was always my favorite character. He was the first thing I saw on the splash page of said first comic I bought, and he was fierce. This man is not that Logan. Nor does he claim to be and that's why I accept him as who he is. I like the character. Though I think you could drop the Old Man part by now.

Nah, it's fun to see how annoyed he gets every time I call him that.

As you can see I'm excited about the new lineup. I hope we really are going back to the basics because the constant ten to fifteen years of doom and gloom has been exhausting.

Amen!

I would like to see Rogue back here where she belongs and I'm very disappointed that Magik, my favorite character, is nowhere to be seen.

Issues #10 and #11, buddy!

But I trust you guys have everything in order, so I'm going to sit back and enjoy the ride

Thanks again for 30 years of X and here's to 30 more.
Kevin T Green

Thanks for writing in, Kevin!

PS - okay to print. Feel free to cut whatever you need to for it to have room. You guys rock!

You rock, too! Thanks!

All right, X-Peeps. Seems that's all we've got for this week. Looking forward to seeing you all again in a fortnight. Thanks, as always, for continuing to support our series.

**Best,
Marc Guggenheim
Encino, California**

HOUSE OF X

At any given day while walking down the HALLS OF X, I can't help but be amazed at all the uncanny stories our characters have been through. The sheer amount of imagination that's fueled epic missions, shocking demises, unexpected returns, tragic romances, jaw-dropping betrayals and acts of inspiring, selfless heroism is enough to power a small sun. As a reader I could hardly wait for the next issue. I'd scour the pages over and over for any hint or sign as to what might be in store for our misfortunate and misunderstood mutant heroes. I loved it when a writer, artist or editor would drop a subtle clue and get my speculative juices flowing.

In the past week I've walked down the Halls of X with some extremely imaginative storytellers. A few days ago, Greg Pak and Fred Van Lente came in to plan a special arc in WEAPON X. The next day Charles Soule came in to map out some amazing twists and turns coming in ASTONISHING X-MEN. About 24 hours ago, I met with a writer (who must remain anonymous) about some huge plans we have for the end of the year.

And, dear reader, I can't help but want to tell you about these incredible plans! I can, after all, appreciate a good near spoiler. But, alas, since I've taken an oath of secrecy I can only do my second favorite thing to editing X-Men comics and that's... to give you clues as to what's coming up in X-Men comics! For some arbitrary reason, let's do five:

Red!

Switch!

Mother!

Negative!

Séance!

X-MEN GOLD:

By Marc Guggenheim and R.B. Silva. Kitty Pryde takes charge and leads a new team into a heroic age!
Issue #12!

X-MEN BLUE:

By Cullen Bunn and Cory Smith. The time-displaced original five join their greatest enemy, Magneto. Evil mutants, you're toast!
Issue #11!

WEAPON X:

By Greg Pak and Greg Land. The Weapon X program is back, but this time they are building weapons of mutant destruction. Old Man Logan, Sabretooth and a team of stealthy killers take the bloody battle back to them.
Issue #7 on sale now!

ALL-NEW WOLVERINE:

By Tom Taylor and Leonard Kirk. A virus from another world threatens to wipe out mankind. Kicking off an epic tale that will take Laura Kinney to the stars.
Issue #24!

GENERATION X:

By Christina Strain and Amilcar Pinna. Jubilee and a band of mutant misfits in the new Xavier Institute. What could go wrong? EVERYTHING!
Issue #6!

JEAN GREY:

By Dennis Hopeless and Victor Ibáñez. She's the leader of X-MEN BLUE, but what does she do in her spare time? What would you do if you had a premonition of the Phoenix Force returning?
Issue #6 on sale now!

CABLE:

By James Robinson and Carlos Pacheco. A new villain is traveling through time to assemble a doomsday weapon. Cable's most dangerous mission ever!
Issue #4 on sale now!

ICEMAN:

By Sina Grace and Alessandro Vitti. The coolest hero on the planet, Bobby Drake the elder, in super-hero solo adventures.
Issue #6!

OLD MAN LOGAN:

By Ed Brisson and Mike Deodato Jr. The Maestro! Old Man Logan! Deodato! 'Nuff said!
Issue #28!

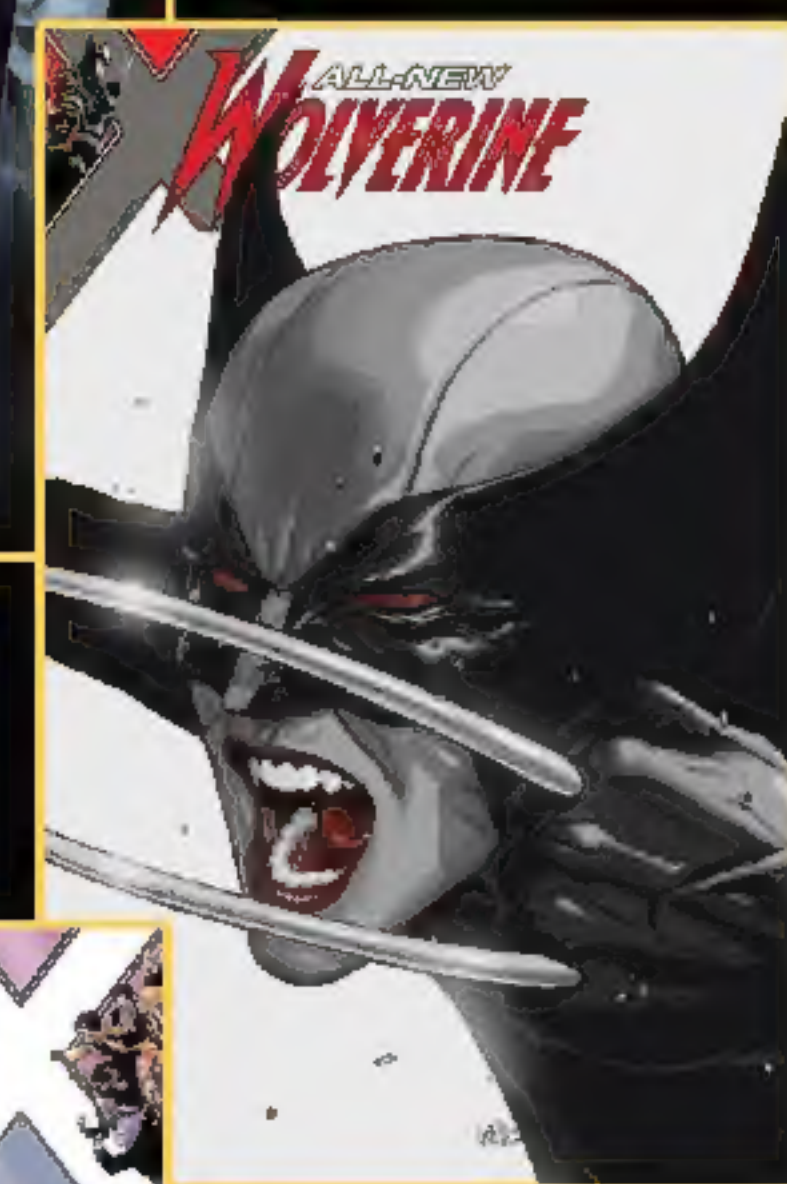
ASTONISHING X-MEN:

By Charles Soule and a murderers' row of chart-topping and up-and-coming artists. Fan-favorite characters battle one of the X-Men's most dangerous foes!
Issue #4!

Make sure to let us know your thoughts. You can email us at officex@marvel.com (add "OKAY TO PRINT" in the subject line). And don't forget about #XMENMONDAY on Twitter, where I'll post some tidbit from one or more of the books and address your questions. I can't guarantee an answer for everybody, but I'll do my darndest!



Mark Paniccia
Senior Editor
MARVEL COMICS
@MARKPANICCIA



X-MEN

GOLD

X-MEN GOLD #12 IN TWO WEEKS



SEND YOUR LETTERS TO
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ICEMAN #5
ON SALE NOW



WEAPON X #8
NEXT WEEK



CABLE #5
IN THREE WEEKS



